

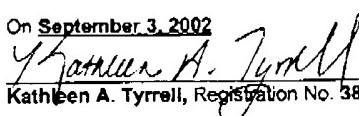
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: **ISPH-0591**
Inventors: **Crooke and Graham**
Serial No.: **09/917,963**
Filing Date: **July 30, 2001**
Examiner: **Sean McGarry**
Group Art Unit: **1645**
Title: **Antisense Modulation of Microsomal
Triglyceride Transfer Protein Expression**

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On September 3, 2002


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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is being amended and claim 3 canceled to facilitate the search and examination of this invention.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted

to inhibit triglyceride transfer protein expression.